

The New Play By Percy Hammond

Mr. Duncan and Others in a Restful Fragment of Life in a French Seaport

THE CAST
Miss Marguerite Foerster
Mrs. Cordiner Miss Jessie Dickerson
Tom Powers
Augustine Duncan
Young Workman Claude Custer
Another Workman Robert H. Forsythe
Old Workman R. Henry Holden

After the customary stress and rumpus in the theater the tranquil proceedings at the Belmont come as restful as the beekeper's hum. There is "The S. S. Tenacity," some lowly French people go quietly and believably about the business of living, encountering its fluctuations and events with a minimum of gesture and eloquence. They drink and talk, love and suffer and betray and are betrayed, to the accompaniment of no strange motions nor gestures. In fact, the most eloquent line of the piece is not heard at all. The presentation, therefore, is not of a play than a circus. Mr. Augustine Duncan, one of the actors, is its producer and guiding spirit.

What you may wonder, will you find to interest you in the lives of two Paris printers as they come in contact with others in a little restaurant in a French seaport town? They are dissatisfied ex-patriots, emigrating to the Canadian Northwest, and they are awaiting to sail for America on the Tenacity. One of them (Mr. George Gaul) is an irresolute visionary, self-confident and a four-flusher. The other Mr. Tom Powers is a timid, inexperienced boy, with sentimental ideals. The shy fellow falls in love with Therese, the pretty waitress, who means well enough, but is unstable. He talks to her of her red lips, and pines her with champagne. He wins.

This scene wherein Therese is "overcome" is as honest a thing as you will see in the current theater. There is plenty of detail, but none of it obtrusive or superfluous. The whispering, the tiptoeing about the room, the thin avowals, the little passion and ecstasies are rather true and actual. Mr. Gaul, endeavoring a French characterization, seems at times to assume a traditional falsetto; but there is no dash in the way of Miss Marguerite Foerster as Therese. Her veristic little moonbonings may be described, but not in this column.

Mr. Powers, until now, has been acting with his usual emphatic restraint, a bit theatrical in his choked emotions. But when he learns that his friend and the waitress of his heart have deserted him and left him to go alone to Manitoba he has his fine moment. Miss Jessie Dickerson as the Widow Cordiner, the chanteuse of the inn, and Mr. Duncan as a friendly old drunkard, try by excellent playing of their roles to console him, but they cannot. He is a picture of heartbreak, and as he goes out the door to board the Tenacity you really feel sorry for him. "You'll come back," Miss Cordiner calls after him; and he says "Maybe" just as it should be said. Mr. Duncan's impersonation of the neighborhood philosopher is another of his illuminating performances, but it is director of the play that he is most valuable. It is from the French of Charles Vildred.

Dinner for Dutch Envoy

**Van Karscheek Entertained
Here on Eve of Departure**

Johkne H. A. Van Karscheek, representative from Holland at the semi-limitation conference, was honored at a well dinner last night at the Astor by the Netherlands-American Foundation. He said for Holland today.

Johkne Van Karscheek said there has been a great revival of sympathy in Holland for the United States, and that he returns home full of enthusiasm for it. He said the Washington conference had achieved many good things in that it had made the question of naval armament frankly safe for the first time and had lifted the Pacific cloud. He said it had brought about a restoration of international confidence.

Edward Boe was toastmaster. The other speakers included William C. Redfield, Mrs. Douglas Robinson and Dr. David Jayne Hill.

Ethel Barrymore to Play Rosalind in "As You Like It"

At the conclusion of her tour in "Decades" Ethel Barrymore probably will be seen as Rosalind in "As You Like It." The Ziegfeld play has proved such a success on the road that the length of its run can hardly be determined at this time.

Augustus Thomas is authority for the statement that Miss Barrymore is to play in the Shakespeare comedy. In the course of an address on the theater at the Academy of Music, in Philadelphia, last night Mr. Thomas announced that he had persuaded her to add the role of Rosalind to her already extensive repertoire.

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